

REMARKS

This Amendment is intended to reduce the total number of claims and place the application in better condition for examination and allowance. All claims canceled by way of this Amendment are canceled without prejudice and the Applicants reserve the right to file one or more subsequent continuing applications re-introducing such canceled claims.

The Applicants also submit herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, with references. The Examiner is reminded that the present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/675,829, now abandoned.

A check in the amount of \$546.00 is enclosed, for seven claims in excess of twenty, and five independent claims in excess of three. In the event any additional fees are necessary, kindly charge the cost thereof to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Respectfully submitted,


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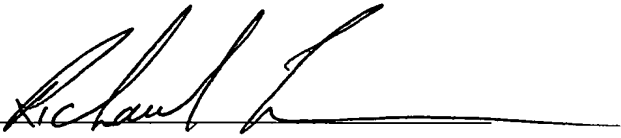
Date: April 7, 2003

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Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail

I hereby certify that this Preliminary is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 233431974 US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: April 7, 2003

Signature: 

(Richard Zimmermann)